

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 2507 – HB 2645

March 3, 2012

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (013537):** Adds chemical compounds considered to be a derivative of methcathinone to the Class A misdemeanor offense of production, manufacture, distribution, or sale of synthetic derivatives or analogues of methcathinone. Removes the intent requirement from the offense of possession of synthetic derivatives or analogues of methcathinone.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- The parent drug, methcathinone, is currently included in the Schedule 1 list of drugs. Inclusion of its derivatives in a misdemeanor offense will not significantly expand the existing caseload. Due to the minimal number of anticipated prosecutions, there will be a not significant impact to state or local government revenue or expenditures.
- Removing the intent requirement from the possession offense and thereby effectively reducing it to simple possession may lower the level of proof required to convict a person for possession of the described substances but it will not result in a significant increase in the number of possession charges.
- A small increase in cases in the court system will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenue from fees, taxes and costs collected. These expenditures and revenue are estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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/lsc